

Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership Frequently Asked Questions

First Edition revised, May 2, 2016 (see update to Question #6)

1. **Question:** Could you send me more information on how to apply for an Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership grant? When is the deadline to apply?
Answer: Per the Department of Health and Human Services' Grants Forecast, a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) will be available on Grants.gov in May 2016. You are encouraged to regularly visit the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Grants Forecast: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/hhsgrantsforecast/> for the anticipated timelines for the upcoming Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership funding opportunity announcements.
2. **Question:** My organization provides child care services, but is not a current Head Start and/or Early Head Start grantee. Is my organization eligible to apply for an EHS-CC Partnership grant?
Answer: You are encouraged to visit the Eligibility section of the three forecasts for the upcoming Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership Funding Announcements which states, "Eligible entities include: (1) entities operating Head Start programs, (2) entities operating Indian Head Start or Migrant or Seasonal Head Start programs, and (3) other public entities, and nonprofit or for-profit private entities, including community-based and faith-based organizations, capable of providing child and family services that meet the standard for participation in programs under the Head Start Act."

Please note, (1) entities operating Head Start programs includes entities operating Head Start, Early Head Start and/or EHS-CC Partnership programs.

If your organization meets the eligibility criteria you would be eligible to apply.

- Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership Grants, see: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/hhsgrantsforecast/index.cfm?switch=grant.view&gff_grants_forecastInfoID=73942
 - American Indian/Alaska Native EHS Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnerships, see: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/hhsgrantsforecast/index.cfm?switch=grant.view&gff_grants_forecastInfoID=73943
 - Migrant and Seasonal EHS-Child Care and EHS Expansion Partnerships, see: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/hhsgrantsforecast/index.cfm?switch=grant.view&gff_grants_forecastInfoID=73944
3. **Question:** My organization is an EHS-CC Partnership grantee. Is my organization eligible to apply to expand our program through the new Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership funding opportunity?
Answer: You are encouraged to visit the Additional Eligibility section of the EHS-CC Partnership Forecast which states, "Eligible entities include: (1) entities operating Head Start programs, (2) entities operating Indian Head Start or Migrant or Seasonal Head Start programs, and (3) other public entities, and nonprofit or for-profit private entities, including community-based and faith-based organizations, capable of providing child and family services that meet the standard for participation in programs under the Head Start Act."

Please note, (1) entities operating Head Start programs includes entities operating Head Start, Early Head Start and/or EHS-CC Partnership programs

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Per the Description section of the Forecast, all eligible entities may apply to expand access to high-quality, comprehensive services to low-income infants and toddlers and their families through Early Head Start-Child Care (EHS-CC) Partnerships, or through the expansion of Early Head Start services.

4. **Question:** If a current Early Head Start grantee receives a new Early Head Start Expansion or EHS-CC Partnership award, is this considered a new grant or is it rolled into an existing grant award?

Answer: The EHS Expansion or EHS-CC Partnership grant would be a new grant with a separate grant number.

5. **Question:** Is the Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership funding opportunity only for Early Head Start? Are there any funding opportunities for regular Head Start programs?

Answer: Per the Description section of the Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership Grants Forecast, applicants may only apply to expand access to high-quality, comprehensive services to low-income infants and toddlers and their families through Early Head Start-Child Care (EHS-CC) Partnerships, or through the expansion of Early Head Start services.

6. **Question:** I would like more information on the Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership forecasts. When do you expect the notice of funding availability to be released?

Answer: On May 2, 2016 the **Estimated Milestones Dates of the EHS Expansion and EHS-CC Partnership Grants forecast was modified**. The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) expects to post the funding opportunity announcement (FOA) on Grants.gov and thus have it available to the public on **June 30, 2016**.

7. **Question:** Will Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership applicants be awarded priority points if they propose EHS-CC Partnerships instead of proposing only Early Head Start Expansion?

Answer: When the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is ready to accept applications, we will issue an official notice as known as a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), which will be available on Grants.gov. Please ensure to fully review the FOA for additional information about this funding opportunity and specific instruction on submitting an application.

8. **Question:** Will an applicant be able to apply for both Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership funding? If yes, will that require two separate applications or one application? If applicants can apply for Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership- does the Estimated Award Ceiling apply to one or both program options within one application?

Answer: When the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is ready to accept applications, we will issue an official notice as known as a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), which will be available on Grants.gov. Please ensure to fully review the FOA for additional information about this funding opportunity and specific instruction on submitting an application.

9. **Question:** Are tribes eligible to apply for Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership funding?

Answer: You are encouraged to visit the Eligibility section of the forecasts for the upcoming EHS-CCP Funding Announcements.

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10. **Question:** We are very interested in expansion of our EHS program and we have been approached by our local community college to have an onsite classroom. We are concerned about our ability to find funding for the facility. Will funding for the purchase of a new facility or renovation of a current facility be available through the Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership funding opportunity?

Answer: When the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is ready to accept applications, we will issue an official notice as known as a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), which will be available on Grants.gov. Please ensure to fully review the FOA for additional information about this funding opportunity and specific instruction on submitting an application. Information on allowable costs will be included in the FOA.

11. **Question:** Are there any webinars about the Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership funding opportunities planned?

Answer: The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) does anticipate conducting an outreach webinar shortly after the funding opportunity announcements are issued. To receive webinar announcements, be sure to subscribe (or update your subscription) on the Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center (ECLKC) available at: <http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/eclkc/customerservice/cmaalerts> to include Partnerships between Early Childhood Programs.

12. **Question:** Will the funding ceilings be broken out at the state level again? Will Promise Zones and priority zip codes still offer bonus points? If so, should we expect to see a change to the list of targeted zip codes?

Answer: When the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is ready to accept applications, we will issue an official notice as known as a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), which will be available on Grants.gov. Please ensure to fully review the FOA for additional information about this funding opportunity and specific instruction on submitting an application.

13. **Question:** Will there be any major differences between the 2014 Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership funding opportunity announcement and the newly forecasted opportunities that applicants should plan for in advance of the release of the 2016 funding opportunity announcements?

Answer: When the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is ready to accept applications, we will issue an official notice as known as a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), which will be available on Grants.gov. Please ensure to fully review the FOA for additional information about this funding opportunity and specific instruction on submitting an application.

14. **Question:** Is the grant opportunity solely for the purpose of serving low-income, migrant and seasonal infants and toddlers and their families?

Answer: Per the Description section of the Migrant and Seasonal EHS-Child Care and EHS Expansion Partnerships forecast, funds will be “awarded for the purpose of expanding access to high-quality, comprehensive services to low-income, migrant and seasonal infants and toddlers and their families through Early Head Start-Child Care (EHS-CC) Partnerships, or through the expansion of Early Head Start services.

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There are two additional Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership funding opportunities, the forecasts for are available at:

- Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership Grants, see:
http://www.acf.hhs.gov/hhsgrantsforecast/index.cfm?switch=grant.view&gff_grants_forecastInfoID=73942
- American Indian/Alaska Native EHS Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnerships, see:
http://www.acf.hhs.gov/hhsgrantsforecast/index.cfm?switch=grant.view&gff_grants_forecastInfoID=73943

15. **Question:** We have a question regarding Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership forecast. The 2014 Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership funding opportunity provided up to an 18-month "start-up" period. Will this be reflected in the 2016 Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership funding opportunity?

Answer: When funding is available and an agency is ready to accept applications, the agency will issue an official notice as known as a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), which will be available on Grants.gov. Please ensure to fully review the FOA for additional information about this funding opportunity and specific instruction on submitting an application.

16. **Question:** I noticed that the forecast states 75 entities would be funded. As a small nonprofit how do I determine if my organization is eligible for a partnership?

Answer: The Expected Number of Awards listed in the Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership forecast represents the number of awards the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) agency anticipates funding. You are encouraged to visit the Eligibility section of the three forecasts for the upcoming EHS-CCP Funding Announcements:

- Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership Grants, see:
http://www.acf.hhs.gov/hhsgrantsforecast/index.cfm?switch=grant.view&gff_grants_forecastInfoID=73942
- American Indian/Alaska Native EHS Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnerships, see:
http://www.acf.hhs.gov/hhsgrantsforecast/index.cfm?switch=grant.view&gff_grants_forecastInfoID=73943
- Migrant and Seasonal EHS-Child Care and EHS Expansion Partnerships, see:
http://www.acf.hhs.gov/hhsgrantsforecast/index.cfm?switch=grant.view&gff_grants_forecastInfoID=73944

17. **Question:** Would we be able to partner with ourselves for the expansion grant? And if that was possible, does the "other funding" have to come from a non-Head Start source?

Answer: You are encouraged to visit the Early Head Start Partnerships, Partnership Relationships resources, available at: <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/ehs-ccp/partnership-relationships.html>